

# DISC Newsletter

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## DISC NEWSLETTER

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## An Information Periodical For DISC Employees

### Section Articles

We will be presenting articles from sections within DISC each month. For December the article is from Database/Monitors in BIS.



### Database/Monitors by Jay Coverdale

Janel Johnson, Beth Zlotky, and Kelly Ernst work hard to ensure the availability and integrity of a number of databases residing on the DISC mainframe. These databases are used by the Department of Revenue, Department of Transportation, and SRS to store and process information for critical applications used throughout the State of Kansas. If you have ever renewed your car tags or your drivers license, driven past a KDOT construction project, or know of someone receiving benefits from SRS than you know first hand how information stored in these databases can affect our lives. Over 50 million requests for information are made to these databases on a daily basis. Just think for a minute what would happen if this information were not available for use? Construction projects would be delayed, the lines at the DMV would increase greatly, and lives throughout the state would be put at risk due to delayed assistance payments.

While Janel, Beth, and Kelly do not work directly with this information, they ensure that the database products used (namely DB2 and ADABAS) are properly installed, available for use, and tuned appropriately. They continuously monitor the database environments using sophisticated tools and work with the agencies to recommend adjustments and resolve problems that occur. They also develop and maintain recovery procedures (that are tested annually) to ensure these systems can be up and running in a reasonable timeframe if a disaster were to happen.

The following information provides some personal background on this group.

**Janel Johnson:** Janel has worked in DISC for 18 years and holds a BA degree from Washburn University in Computer Information Systems. She has two beautiful children: a five-year-old daughter named Jhailyn, and a 10 year-old son, Darryln II.

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## Database/Monitors continued

Janel is heavily involved in her church where she directs two choirs and is the Chairperson of the Trustee board. Janel enjoys doing sign language and hopes to, one day, become a certified interpreter. Her hobbies include traveling and listening to music.

**Beth Zlotky:** Beth has worked in DISC for 13 years, first as the programming supervisor for STARS and the last 9 ½ years in BIS Tech Support. Beth has a degree in Music Performance from Wichita State University and was a huge Shocker Fan! She played clarinet in the Wichita Symphony for 7 years and was an active musician in Wichita before moving to Topeka in 1986. Beth has two kids: 11-yr-old daughter and 14-yr-old son who keep her very busy. Beth's husband David is the network administrator for Topeka Collegiate School.

**Kelly Ernst:** Kelly has a BS in Computer Information Systems. He previously worked in computer operations for Fairbanks Morse Pump Corp in KC KS for 3 years and also for 6 years at the State of Kansas finally as a systems analyst. Kelly then left the State temporarily and was self-employed in a non-computer related business for 5 years. Kelly is addicted to running and currently logs around 125 miles every month. He enjoys working at DISC and is looking forward to having 10 years of service with the State of Kansas in July 2004.

As you can see this is a very interesting group of people who provide a very important service to the State of Kansas. Thanks Janel, Beth, and Kelly for everything you do for us. We are lucky and proud to have you in BIS.





## EMPLOYEE INFO

*Happy December  
Birthdays to:*



Craig Srna

Lowell Chellberg

Rick Miller

Larry Burton

Clayton Kinnett

Sarah Gigous

Shelly Myers

Tony Appelhanz

Clyde Seel



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Meeting Our Customer's Needs

## Kudos

The following comments were received thanking DISC employees for great work.

**BDAS**

Josh, I never got a chance to "Thank You" for your help last week. It really shows your dedication, to come in on a day you had off to assist us with a problem. You are a true asset to the staff. Having employees like you makes my job much easier. Thanks again  
Sara Gigous

**BOT**

I certainly appreciate all that DISC has done to work around problems and to expedite shipments of cable, etc. Things are looking fairly good now.  
Ben Nelson, KDOT

## Kudos continued

**BOT**

Thanks goes to Chuck Engel and John Lundin for getting services restored in KDOT, after a fire in the Chemistry Lab destroyed telephone and network services.

Stanley Young, KDOT

**BOCS**

I just thought I would let you know the training that was provided by Mr. Jones last week was excellent and was definitely an eye opening experience. Mr. Jones presented relevant material in an easy to understand format and was receptive to all inquiries. The hands-on training modules were tailored to real life situations and thus made this training better than ones we have had to pay for in the past. He definitely is an asset to DISC and the State.

Adrian Guerrero, KS St. Bd. Of Nursing



**Great Job Everyone !!**